GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2863
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
National Commission for Heritage Sites
Biswas Shri Radheshyam

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a National Commission for Heritage sites, for making recommendation to Central and State Government to preserve national monuments and sites of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has provided fund for this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, state/ UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d) No Madam. The Government has not set up a National Commission for Heritage sites. The Government had introduced a Bill named "The National Commission For Heritage Sites Bill, 2009" in the Rajya Sabha on 26.02.2009, which was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. The same is pending since then for making necessary amendments in the Bill in pursuance to the recommendations, made in the 150th Report of Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, on the Bill. Accordingly, consultations were held with various stakeholders including the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), National Monuments Authority (NMA) as well as Ministries of Urban Development, Environment, Forest & Climate Change (the then Environment & Forests) etc. Based on the consultations, the Government decided not to constitute a National Heritage Sites Commission as envisaged in the said Bill. The Bill was accordingly withdrawn by the Government from the Rajya Sabha on 31.07.2015.